

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/447,138, filed on November 22, 1999. Claims 1-22 were allowed in that application.

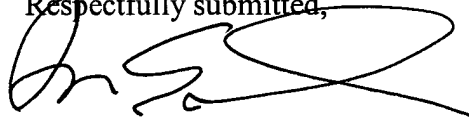
Claims 23-29 were first presented for examination in an amendment on August 23, 2002, and were ultimately cancelled prior to allowance. Claims 22, 23, 24, and 27 have been amended from their original version to more distinctly recite the Applicants' claimed invention and to include limitations not taught by the cited references. Thus, claims 22-29 are present for examination.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,



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